

MEETING MINUTES
Friday, January 16, 2004
VECC Training Room
1:00 pm

Attendance:

Floyd Ritter (State ITS)	Michael Fellows (State, UDOT)
Tim Slocum (State, Corrections)	Steve McCarthy (State, UDOT)
Ken Brown (USFS)	Bill Barnes (Luxul)
Jill Berman (State, Corrections)	Forrest Roper (Millard County SO)
Bryan Low (Logan City PD)	Ed Phillips (Millard County SO)
Randy Auman (Logan City PD)	Kevin Holman (Sanpete County)
Tim Cornia (State DPS)	Barry Bradley (Sanpete County)
Jake Hunt (UCAN)	Jeff Nielson (Sevier County)
Jeff Dial (St. George PD)	Randy Evesett (En Pointe Tech)
Merv Gustin (Duchesne SO)	Langford Lloyd (AT&T Wireless)
Dennis Busby (M/A-Comm)	Dennis Busby (M/A-Comm)
Sherman Stebbins (St. George PD)	Jake Hunt (UCAN)
Rod Daughetee (Park City)	Doug Chandler (State ITS)

I. National Guard Interoperability

Lieutenant Toby Adamson with the Utah National Guard gave a slide presentation outlining the Guard's wireless communications objectives with respect to interoperability. Grant money has been received for installing a console at Camp Williams and the Draper facilities. The console will be capable of interconnection to the UCAN switch. Governor Walker has tasked UNG with speaking from one end of the state to the other. Three sites on line now: Red Spur, Francis Peak, and Williams Peak. The UNG is currently working with Floyd Ritter (State ITS) to utilize existing state communication sites and their associated microwave connections. Each site will have 1 radio for MAARS, 2 for UNG. SINGARS is their primary FM based 30-88 MHz base stations.

II. 700MHz Mobile Data RFP Update

David Lee brought the Steering Committee up to date on the RFP process. The RFP was put out for the purposes of coming up with a 700MHz mobile data solution. The evaluations of the RFP are not yet completed. The initial evaluations, including scoring of prices have been completed. We already knew going into the RFP that there would be no less than six months time to delivery of product.

The state currently has a working UHF solution in Tooele and Cache counties, and Park City. This solution is currently similar to CDPD speeds. Available speeds for this and other solutions are about to increase to around 100K.

ITS hopes to have a contract awarded within a couple of weeks. That will leave a couple of weeks of time for a UWIN Technology Steering Committee Team to evaluate the different options and propose a solution.

Randy Auman suggested that we need to have discussions about the alternatives ASAP. Steve Proctor asked if any field testing had been done yet on 700 MHz solutions. There is no equipment available for testing today. Jake Hunt asked for clarification on whether or not testing would be done before an award was made. David clarified that an award would be made before any testing is done. An award to allow purchasing does not mandate implementation. Tim Cornia pointed out that the requirements of the RFP must be met by an awarded vendor, or the contract would be voided.

The four vendors that responded to the RFP were: Motorola, IPMobile Net, Data Comm, and Tycho Electronics. We can still license 25KHz frequencies in the UHF band due to a “stay” of a previous FCC decision. There is no guarantee of how long that stay will be in effect. Boyd Webb spoke about the UHF frequencies that have already been applied for throughout the state for expansion of the existing UHF mobile data solution. We can continue to add more if we choose. Jeff Dial asked if we could form a migration plan to get from the current UHF solution to 700 MHz.

David also mentioned that the Network Persistence RFP will be getting it out to evaluators soon. There were a lot of vendors who participated.

III. Omni-Link

Carl McCormick gave information on the progress and milestones of the Omni-Link project. Omni-Link allows assets tied into it to communicate with one-another, regardless of which switch the assets are plugged into. For example; a dispatch center in Box Elder could utilize base stations connected to the Vernal console. Carl covered the upgrade to omni-link 4.1 upgrade. The new controller will come up on 4.1 and the existing controller will remain on it's current 3.0 version until everything on 4.1 is up and running. The first phase of the project is to connect mainly the rural and federal assets. Jake Hunt added that many 800 MHz conventional stations will be installed throughout the state as part of the project. This will allow an 800 MHz user to travel throughout the state and still have coverage. The intent is that all dispatch centers can eventually plug into the central switch.

Omni-Link and two controllers should be staged in Chicago by late April. Shipped by 2nd week in May. Installs and testing through June to meet the July interoperability test date. Training in July. By September, existing UCAN centers will start to move over to the new system.

Steve Proctor added that while all of this is going on, the UCAN/Salt Lake County system merger will be moving forward. On Dec 26 (the big snow storm) in a 24 hr time period, there were 255,000 radio calls placed on the UCAN system. This system is stable and will be able to handle the increased load.

Jake Hunt noted that sometime in the February time frame, there would be a meeting to discuss the upgrade to Windows XP operating system.

IV. Governance Board Update

Doug Chandler shared a slide presentation that he gave to the UWIN Governance Board in December. It covered the possible role of the UWIN TSC in Incident Command, and a computer generated coverage map of 33 proposed locations for the 800 MHz conventional base stations. Doug showed the UWIN Web Page. There were 16 projects defined as part of “UWIN Phase One” as promised by Governor Walker. Several of the items are being handled within the Omni-Link project.

The 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee has a web site within the UWIN Web Site. Everyone is encouraged to participate in that process. The next 700 MHz RPC meeting will be held at the Logan PD in March.

We need to remember that as we put together plans and projects for implementation, we must present them to the UWIN Governance Board for approval. Once that approval has been obtained, the newly created UWIN Finance Committee can be utilized to help find the funding necessary to implement the plans.

The Steering Committee is currently comprised of:

Official Members: 16

Advisory Committee: 11 of 13

Federal Members: 4

Vendors: 5

V. Formation of Project Teams

Motions were accepted and seconded to form Project Teams (below). Team Leaders should drive solutions by having meetings and encouraging participation. Team leaders will report to the larger steering committee in regular meetings. Meetings should be announced by sending an Email to: utahwireless@list.utah.gov. By sending an Email to this address, all members of the UWIN list server will receive the Email.

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|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| a. Mobile Data | (Team Leader: Forrest Roper, Millard County) |
| b. Narrowband Migration | (Team Leader: Boyd Webb, State ITS) |
| c. 802.11 | (Team Leader: Tim Cornia, State DPS) |
| d. Incident Command | (proposed but not formed) |

VI. Narrowband Migration

Boyd Webb took a few minutes to address some of the FCC deadlines associated with Narrowband migration. The FCC has 'stayed' the January 2004 deadline for licensing of wideband (25 KHz) channels. The next deadline is 2005 for required certification of manufactured equipment. In 2008 no wideband equipment can be manufactured or shipped into the US. The 'stay' was put in place after APCO and other national public safety associations petitioned for reconsideration. All radios manufactured since 1997 are capable of operating in narrowband.

VII. Project SAFECOM Meeting

UCAN and SAFECOM are hosting an interoperability seminar Next Thursday. More info can be found on the Web Site.

VIII. Next Meeting

Millard County Sheriff's Office

1:00 pm

Friday February 20, 2004

<http://uwin.utah.gov>